



Educational project in Peru



QUICK OVERVIEW

Education, youth, and development volunteering projects vary significantly in structure, setting, and level of formality. Some placements are based in schools with fixed schedules and established curricula, while others take place in community spaces through informal learning, youth activities, or supervised childcare programs. Volunteers should expect different levels of structure depending on the project they join.

Across all education and youth placements, volunteer roles are supportive rather than leading. Volunteers assist qualified teachers, youth workers, or program coordinators by helping manage activities, supporting small groups, and contributing to a positive learning environment. Responsibility for instruction, discipline, and safeguarding always remains with local staff.

These projects are designed to strengthen existing initiatives rather than introduce reliance on outside support. Volunteer involvement is shaped by local needs, available resources, and safeguarding requirements. As a result, flexibility, reliability, and respect for professional boundaries are essential across all education, youth, and development placements.

able to make a real impact on the surrounding community in Cusco. Working as a teacher abroad in Peru will also help you gain priceless work experience, meet some great friends and like-minded people along the way and most importantly, make a real impact through volunteering.

Afterschool Club

In Cusco there are several after school programs. Proyecto Peru primarily works with the after school programs where the help is most needed. In these programs you will work with children from disadvantaged backgrounds who may lack access to parental support, educational opportunities or adequate nutrition.

You will primarily work with children between 6 and 12 years old. You may also work with younger or older kids as well. You will get the opportunity to build connections with the children and teach them something valuable. Activities include homework support, pastoral care, arts and crafts, sports and games and much more.

Providing a cooked lunch or dinner for the kids is often an essential part in these after school programs, and volunteers take part in preparing and serving this meal.

Kindergarten

At the Kindergarten project you will help a teacher take care of 20 to 30 children between the ages of 3 and 5. Most of the children will come from challenging backgrounds. The kindergarten aims to offer them a safe environment where they can play games, do homework, and learn new things. The project can be quite chaotic but very rewarding.

Public School (English or Sports)

At this project you will fulfill the role of teacher (assistant) in a local high school/secondary or primary/elementary school (students aged 7-17). You will shadow and observe your teacher, supervise the class, help the children in doing their homework, and most important: support in teaching. Your support could include teaching English, another language, mathematics or sports. This depends on your personal preference and where the support is needed most.

Dependent on your personal preferences, you can teach the children English, sports, or another subject of interest. It is highly encouraged (and appreciated) to take initiative and make suggestions.

- WHAT'S INCLUDED?

- All Meals
- 24/7 Emergency local numbers
- Airport Pick up
- Area Orientation on arrival
- Pre departure support

Not Included

- Flights to the program destination
- Medical and travel insurance
- Visa costs
- Vaccinations
- Airport Drop
- Transport to Project Sites
- Spanish Language Courses
- Excursions

Accommodation

You'll live in Cusco and stay at a homestay with a local Peruvian family. You will get a private room and an extremely friendly and welcoming family to live with. It's a truly immersive, life-changing travel experience and you'll make friends and connections for life.

All our volunteers will have access to western style **bathrooms** and home cooked meals will be organised on your behalf. Daily transport to your placement will be using **public transport** such as buses and auto rickshaws will be organised by us but you will have to pay extra for this. Don't worry its not too expensive in Peru and you can budget \$1-2 (£2) a day for this.

Please note that the majority of the houses in Cusco do not have central heating. Bedrooms can be very cold at night but blankets will be provided. Nonetheless, it can still be very **cold at night**. Therefore, please pack accordingly. Bring appropriate clothing for sleeping.

Laundry: On every street corner you will find a laundry. The price per kilo is S/. 3.00 to S/. 5.00 Nuevos Soles.

Internet: Not all guest families have internet. At the Project Peru school there is internet available with a **Wi-Fi** connection so you can always use the internet in the school. Also there are plenty of internet cafes throughout the city

Arrival and orientation

When you step out of the airport building you will see somebody waiting for you. Your host family member will have a **sign with your name** written on it.

You will be going to the Proyecto Peru School for your **orientation on Monday**. Your orientation tour will begin at 1pm at on Monday and it is compulsory so please do not miss this. Your family will show you the way to our school.

On arrival weekend you are free to explore, relax or spend time getting to know your host family. On your first day on the project (usually Monday) you will be taken to the project by Proyecto Peru staff who will come and pick you up. Your exact placement details will be given to you before arrival.

Transport

You will find taxis everywhere in Cusco. A taxi costs S/. 3.00 Nuevos Soles within the city center or other short distances. At night or for larger distances, it will cost S/.4.00 Nuevos Soles or a little bit more. It is best to take official taxis and taxis with a sign at the top. The public bus is the most popular way of transportation in Cusco.

Money

The Peruvian currency is the “Nuevo Sol”, however in some establishments prices are given in U.S. dollars. Local shops and markets only accept Soles. We recommend exchanging money in banks or in “casas de cambio”, because they offer more security and guarantees. NOTE: If you plan to exchange U.S. dollars, try to bring the newest and cleanest bills possible. Most places (even banks!) will NOT accept dollars that look old, dirty or torn. Credit cards can be used in high category establishments. In case you need cash, use one of the numerous **ATMs** located mostly in the centre of the city.

Weather

In Cusco, between May and September, temperatures can drop to about 3o C or even colder at night. From December to March, there may be heavy rains. Generally speaking, Cusco’s weather can be cold, but rarely freezing. The average annual temperature is 12o C, ranging from an average day temperature of 18o C and night time temperature around 6o C. There are no heating systems, so bring warm clothes. During the day it will be warm when walking in the sun. In Cusco the sun is very strong, so use sunscreen with a high factor.

Altitude

Cusco is situated at an altitude of 3360 meters, so altitude sickness can be a potential health risk. You must take care the first day: don’t drink any alcohol and don’t eat heavy meals. Take your time and take it easy when you arrive. You can buy pills in Cusco if you feel sick due to the altitude. At 3000 meters or higher, the air is dry and thin. This makes skin and especially lips dehydrated.

About Cusco

Cusco is a city with 420.000 people. Because of its location in a valley, the distances in Cusco are bigger. The school is located in the center of the city. The center is located in the north of the city. The center is very lively: there are lots of bars and restaurants. The majority of our home stays are located halfway the city, about 15-20 minutes by public bus to the center. The volunteer projects are located throughout the city.

In Cusco there are pickpockets active in crowded places, so always keep an eye on your belongings. During the day, it is safe to walk alone, just be careful with your valuables. Don't walk down the street at night, always take a taxi.